

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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**SECRET**  
SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Expansion of East German Wire Communications	DATE DISTR.	12 March 1953
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	1
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
		REFERENCES	25X1

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The East German Government, in a decree dated 14 August 1952, ordered the allocation of an additional 1952 investment credit of 6,747,000 eastmarks for the wire communications system of the German Postal Service. In late August, another 6,000,000 eastmarks were allocated for expansion of the wire communications network necessary for the new county and district administrations.1
2. In early October 1952, the Main Telecommunications Department of the Ministry for Post and Telecommunications completed the Capacity Plan for 1953 telecommunications investments. About 50 percent of the investments were allocated for the establishment or improvement of the long distance cable net of the Post- und Fernmeldetechnisches Zentralamt (Central Board for Postal and Telecommunications Engineering).2 42,000 telephones and 153 switchboards had been requested in the original draft, but only 10,900 telephones and 31 switchboards were included in the final plan. Civilian requirements were considerably neglected and priority was given to the trunk wire net.

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1. Comment. it would be impossible to realize the additional investments of about 12,000,000 eastmarks in 1952. the realization of the 1953 plan would depend on the supply of raw materials. 25X1
2. Comment. the East German Government finally recognized the importance of wire communications and, therefore, for the first time planned large allocations for wire communications in addition to the priority investments for wireless (radio) communications. 25X1

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